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ORAGE, A. R. *National Guilds: An Enquiry into the Wage-System and the Way Out.* Pp. viii, 370. Price, \$1.60. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

The author divides his study into an analysis of the wage system and a suggested remedy. His conclusion regarding the wage system—a conclusion based largely upon theoretical grounds—is that, "It cannot now be doubted that the commodity theory of labour is at the root of present discontent." He attacks the wage system on the grounds that it involves two false assumptions: (1) "That labour is a commodity pure and simple; (2) that the seller of labour, having sold, has no kind of economic or social claim to the products of labour." He avers that, "The unrest that now stirs the pool of the capitalist Siloam is an unconscious protest against the wage system that condemns the great majority of mankind to economic servitude and spiritual prostration." The argument against the wage system is well made and strong. The plea for a gold system is not so conclusive. The author finds the inspiration for his plea, not in the activity of the Socialists, but of the Snydericalists. While minimizing the value of political action, he writes, "Some experience of Collectivism in action and of political methods as distinct from economic methods was necessary before the mind of the Labour movement could be turned in another direction." At last, however, the revulsion "was brought about by the impulse known as Syndicalism which, in essence, is the demand of Labour to control its industry." These points the author makes and makes well, but the reader who looks for a successful demonstration of the contention that the desired end can best be accomplished without political action, will be disappointed in his search.

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OSBORNE, THOMAS MOTT. *Within Prison Walls.* Pp. vii, 327. Price, \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1914.

On September 29, 1913, the author of this volume, who is chairman of the New York State Prison Reform Commission, entered Auburn Prison for a period of one week of voluntary confinement. He was entered as Thomas Brown, No. 33333X and was assigned to cell 15 second tier, north, north wing. The arrangement was made with Warden Rattigan and other prison officials that no special concessions were to be made in favor of the prisoner, but the experiment was not to be kept secret. The plan was carried out completely. Of the nature of this book, which is in the form of a diary-narrative, the author says: "I shall not attempt to draw up any bill of indictment against the prison system, or to suggest specific improvements, either in general principles or administrative details; I shall simply set down the facts and my feelings, as accurately as I can."

The author does not assume that his feelings and mental experiences were those of the real convict, but his physical experiences were practically identical. The treadmill work, the dehumanizing discipline, the deadening monotony and the physical discomforts are described with the vividness, not of a mere observer, but of one who experienced them, and Mr. Osborne had at least an